

Amendments to the Claims

1-60. (Canceled)

61. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising an amount of a monoclonal antibody effective to prevent staphylococcal infection in treat neonates having a staphylococcal infection and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the antibody specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of Lipoteichoic acid (LTA) of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of about  $10^{-8}$  M or higher and is of the IgG isotype, wherein the antibody binds to and enhances opsonization of multiple serotypes of *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, coagulase negative *staphylococci* staphylococci, and *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Streptococcus mutans* by phagocytic cells with or without complement as compared to an appropriate control in an in vitro opsonization assay.

62. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 61, wherein the opsonization assay is performed in the presence of complement, phagocytic cells, or both.

63. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 62, wherein the complement or cells or both are human in origin.

64. (Canceled)

65. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 62, wherein the phagocytic cells comprise macrophages, monocytes, neutrophils, or combinations thereof.

66. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 62, wherein opsonization is measured by determining opsonophagocytic bactericidal activity.

67. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 61, wherein the antibody is capable of binding to LTA of Gram positive bacteria is fixed to a solid support.

68.     **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 67, wherein the solid support is a plate well, bead, or micro-bead.

69-76.     (Canceled)

77.     **(Currently Amended)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody which specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria ~~with a binding affinity of  $10^{-8}$  M or higher, or antigen binding fragment thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody comprises the complementarity determining regions (CDRs) of the heavy and light chain variable regions of monoclonal antibody 96-110 set forth as SEQ ID NO:87 and SEQ ID NO:89.~~

78.     (Canceled)

79.     **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 61 or 77, wherein the antibody comprises a portion of a human antibody sequence.

80.     **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 79, wherein the portion of human antibody sequence comprises an Fc region.

81.     **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 61 or 77, wherein the antibody specifically binds LTA exposed on the surface of the cell wall of Gram positive bacteria.

82-85.     (Canceled)

86.     **(Currently Amended)** The composition of claim ~~85~~ 61 or 77, wherein the antibody binds to serotype 5, serotype 8, or both serotype 5 and serotype 8 of *Staphylococcus aureus*.

87.     **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 61 or 77, wherein the antibody additionally specifically binds to LTA of one or more Gram positive bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Streptococcus mutans*, *Streptococcus faecalis*, and *Streptococcus pyogenes*.

88-90.     **(Canceled)**

91.     **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 61 or 77, wherein the antibody reduces LTA-mediated inflammation, LTA-mediated cytokine production, or combination thereof.

92.     **(Canceled)**

93.     **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 77, wherein the antibody is an Fab, Fab', F(ab')2, or sFv fragment of an antibody.

94.     **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 61 or 77, further comprising at least one additional monoclonal antibody having specificity for LTA.

95.     **(Previously Presented)** A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an antibody of claim 61 or 77, for use in a human neonate.

96.     **(Withdrawn)** A polynucleotide encoding an antibody, or fragment thereof, of claim 61, 77, or 88.

97.     **(Withdrawn)** The polynucleotide of claim 96, wherein the polynucleotide encoding the variable region of the antibody, or fragment thereof, has at least 70% identity to the polynucleotide set forth in FIG. 12.

98.     **(Withdrawn)** A vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 96.

99.     **(Withdrawn)** A cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 96 or the vector of claim 98.

100.    **(Withdrawn)** An antibody, or fragment thereof, produced by a cell comprising a polynucleotide or vector comprising a polypeptide encoding an antibody of claim 61 or 77.

101.    **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 61, wherein the antibody is of the IgG1 isotype.

102-103. **(Canceled)**

104.    **(Currently Amended)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody which specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria ~~with a binding affinity of  $10^{-8}$  M or higher~~, or antigen binding fragment thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody comprises the heavy chain variable region set forth as SEQ ID NO:87.

105.    **(Currently Amended)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody which specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria ~~with a binding affinity of  $10^{-8}$  M or higher~~, or antigen binding fragment thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody comprises the light chain variable region set forth as SEQ ID NO:89.

106.    **(Currently Amended)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody of claim 61, which specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of  $10^{-8}$  M or higher, or antigen binding fragment thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody comprises a heavy chain comprising the heavy chain complementarity determining regions (CDRs) of the monoclonal antibody 96-110 and a variable region having 80% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:87.

107. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 106, wherein the variable region has 85% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:87.

108. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 106, wherein the variable region has 90% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:87.

109. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 106, wherein the variable region has 95% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:87.

110. **(Currently Amended)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody of claim 61, which specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of  $10^{-8}$  M or higher, or antigen binding fragment thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody comprises a light chain comprising the light chain complementarity determining regions (CDRs) of the monoclonal antibody 96-110 and a variable region having 80% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:89.

111. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 110, wherein the variable region has 85% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:89.

112. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 110, wherein the variable region has 90% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:89.

113. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 110, wherein the variable region has 95% amino acid identity with SEQ ID NO:89.

114. **(Currently Amended)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody i) specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of  $10^{-8}$  M or higher, ii) binds to and enhances opsonization of multiple serotypes of *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, coagulase negative staphylococci, and *Staphylococcus aureus* by phagocytic cells with or without complement as compared to an appropriate control in an in vitro opsonization

assay, and iii) of claim 61, wherein the monoclonal antibody comprises a heavy chain comprising the complementarity determining regions (CDRs) of the monoclonal antibody 96-110 heavy chain variable region set forth as SEQ ID NO:87 and having at least 70% amino acid identity with the monoclonal antibody 96-110 heavy chain variable region set forth as SEQ ID NO:87.

115. **(Currently Amended)** A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the monoclonal antibody i) specifically binds to poly-glycerol phosphate of LTA of Gram positive bacteria with a binding affinity of  $10^{-8}$  M or higher, ii) binds to and enhances opsonization of multiple serotypes of *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, coagulase negative staphylococci, and *Staphylococcus aureus* by phagocytic cells with or without complement as compared to an appropriate control in an *in vitro* opsonization assay, and iii) of claim 61, wherein the monoclonal antibody comprises a light chain comprising the complementarity determining regions (CDRs) of the monoclonal antibody 96-110 light chain variable region set forth as SEQ ID NO:89 and having at least 70% amino acid identity with the monoclonal antibody 96-110 light chain variable region set forth as SEQ ID NO:89.